

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

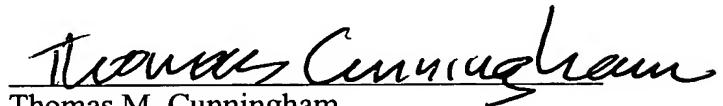
The specification has been revised for clarity and to include sequence identifiers for the disclosed amino acid sequences. An Abstract has been added. New Claims 10-29 find support in original Claims 1-9. Accordingly, the Applicants do not believe that any new matter has been added.

CONCLUSION

The Applicants submit that upon entry of this Preliminary Amendment that this application will be ready for an early examination on the merits.

Respectfully submitted,

OBLON, SPIVAK, McCLELLAND,
MAIER & NEUSTADT, P.C.
Norman F. Oblon


Thomas M. Cunningham
Registration No. 45,394

Customer Number
22850

Tel: (703) 413-3000
Fax: (703) 413 -2220
(OSMMN 06/04)

NFO/TMC/law
I:\ATTY\TMC\273846US-PR.DOC